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D R A F T

PROPOSED PAPER

NORTH VIETNAM'S INTENTIONS

- I. Hanoi Apparently Remains Determined To Continue the War.
  - A. This is evident in their current war-related activities.
    - 1. Continued high level of infiltration.
    - 2. Continued war mobilization in the DRV.
    - 3. Consistent hard line political position.
    - 4. Rebuff of all efforts to start talks.
  - B. This position appears to be based on a belief that most of the determining factors in the war are still favorable.
- II. Hanoi's Evaluation of the Situation in North Vietnam.
  - A. The effect of US air strikes on their ability to supply the troops in the south.
  - B. Status of economy. Ability to carry on.
  - C. The effect of the air strikes on popular morale.
  - D. Level of agreement with the Politburo.
  - E. Effect of Bloc military and political support.

III. North Vietnam's Assessment of the Current Military Political Situation in South Vietnam.

- A. Concern over the lack of recent successes by Communist forces.
- B. The effect of the US combat troop buildup.
- C. The failure of the Communists to successfully exploit the recent political unrest in the south.

IV. Hanoi's Estimate of US Military Intentions.

- A. Against North Vietnam.
- B. In South Vietnam.
- C. US reaction to trials of captured airmen.

V. Future Prospects

- A. Possibility of move by Hanoi toward negotiations.
- B. Near term prospects for military action by Communists.